

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 115655

15

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INR-07 SSO-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 NSCE-00 L-03 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EA:RHMILLER/OSD/ISA:LTCOLFKING:MFG

APPROVED BY EA:PCHABIB

EA/TB - FJTATU

DOD/ISA - ADM. CROWE

PM/ISP - JLEONARD (DRAFT)

NSA - EFITZGERALD (DRAFT)

INR/DDC/PS - RCURL (SUBS)

S/S - RKKUCHEL

NSC - MR. BARNES

----- 071134

O R 112318Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CSAF

CNO

CSA

CINCPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

DIRNSA

S E C R E T STATE 115655

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: THAILAND WITHDRAWALS

REF: STATE 100395

1. THERE IS INCREASING CONCERN HERE THAT WE MAY NOT BE
ABLE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE RETROGRADE ACTION AS CRITICAL
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PAGE 02 STATE 115655

DECISION DATES APPROACH. THIS LEAVES US WITH THREE

ALTERNATIVES, TWO OF WHICH ARE UNDESIRABLE.

2. FIRST, WE COULD INITIATE CERTAIN RETROGRADE ACTIONS WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE US FROM ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF CONTINUED OPERATION (EXAMPLE, RAMASUN STATION). WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TERMINATION NOTICES WILL HAVE TO BE TENDERED IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THAI LABOR LAWS. WE ARE SURE THAT YOU ARE AWARE OF NUMEROUS EXAMPLES OF THIS TYPE OF TIMING PROBL:M.

3. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD CONTINUE ON OUR PRESENT COURSE AND, IF THE THAI REJECTED OUR INITIATIVES, ABANDON A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MATERIEL WHICH HAD NOT BEEN WITHDRAWN BY 20 JULY 1976. IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE ALREADY PASSED THE POINT WHERE WE CAN RETROGRADE THE AIT STOCKS BY 20 JULY UNLESS THE THAI PURCHASE A SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITY.

4. THIRD, WE COULD SEEK THAT AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO EXTEND THE WITHDRAWAL PERIOD UNTIL 1 SEPTEMBER.

5. WE STRONGLY PREFER THE THIRD ALTERNATIVE. THEREFORE, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO SEEK AN EXTENTION (UNTIL 1 SEPTEMBER) AT YOUR DISCRETION IN THE CONTEXT OF YOUR OVERALL INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL.

6. SINCE DRAFTING THE ABOVE, WE HAVE RECEIVED BANGKOK 13370. WE FIND THIS ENCOURAGING, BUT STILL BELIEVE AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE, AT YOUR DISCRETION, TO PIN DOWN AN EXTENSION. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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